

ISSUES IN COVERAGE FOR COMPLEMENTARY AND ALTERNATIVE MEDICINE SERVICES:

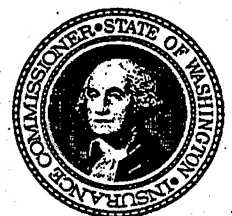
Report of the Clinician Workgroup on the Integration of Complementary and Alternative Medicine

January 2000

**Washington State
Office of the Insurance Commissioner
14th & Water Street
PO Box 40255
Olympia, WA 98504-0255**

**Phone: 360-753-7300
Fax: 360-586-3535
Internet: <http://www.insurance.wa.gov>**

**Deborah Senn
Washington State Insurance Commissioner**





OFFICE OF
INSURANCE COMMISSIONER

Foreword

The Clinician Workgroup on the Integration of Complementary and Alternative Medicine-CWIC was created to develop positive working relationships between health insurance companies and the complementary and alternative health care provider communities within the new regulatory framework presented by RCW 48.43.045, the first law in the United States to require insurers to include access to "every category" of provider in Managed Care.

This report documents the events that led up to the formation of the CWIC, its organization and activities, lessons learned and recommendations for further action.

Also included is essential supporting information, including the legal framework governing the health care professions in Washington, a chronology of events, and list of resources.

The Workgroup has completed the first phase of its task. Its program, agenda was developed by the participants, outside facilitators and the technical staff of the Office of the Insurance Commissioner-OIC. This included discussion of issues related to standard development for Complementary and Alternative Medical professions (CAM), standards for insurance coverage of CAM services, add-on versus replacement costs in health care, the role of the primary care provider and application of the term "medical necessity" when applied to CAM.

A dominant subject throughout the three years of CWIC's existence has been clinical guidelines and algorithms. CAM professions currently do not have such guidelines developed, making the determination of "medical necessity" difficult from the insurance carrier perspective.

To address this issue, CWIC conducted two specific training sessions. From this, each of the CAM professions developed an algorithm for at least one condition frequently treated by their profession. CWIC believes this methodology can provide significant assistance to insurers' abilities to make decisions about medical necessity for coverage of CAM services.

The CWIC is grateful for the participation of so many talented health care professionals and insurance industry representatives over the past three years. It is hoped this report will provide assistance to health care professionals, policy makers, and insurers throughout Washington and the United States.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

A special note of recognition is made to the following persons for their time and commitment to the development of the Clinician Workgroup on the Integration of CAM and the ongoing activities. The committee met for a three year period of regularly scheduled meetings which consumed a great deal of time to work on very difficult issues. Each participant should also be recognized for their ongoing individual presentations that took place throughout the three years. Without their input this report would not be possible. Thank you for your contributions.

Clinician Workgroup on the Integration of CAM Workgroup Participants by Licensed Profession 1997-1999

Acupuncture (including licensed acupuncture participants)

Jim Blair, LAc, Acupuncture Association of Washington
Carl Dahlgren, Lac, Acupuncture Association of Washington
Pat Flood, LAc, Acupuncture Association of Washington
*Christopher Huson, LAc, Acupuncture Association of Washington
Susan Kaetz, External Clinics Manager, Northwest Institute of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine
Bruce Sturgeon, LAc, MOM, Clinical Dean, Northwest Institute of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine
Barbara Mitchell, JD, LAc, National Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine Alliance

Chiropractic (including doctor of chiropractic participants)

Dennis Dilday, DC, Washington State Chiropractic Association
Bruce Frickelton, Executive Director, Washington State Chiropractic Association
*John Huber, DC, Washington State Chiropractic Association
Austin McMillin, DC, Washington State Chiropractic Association
Robert Mootz, DC, Associate Medical Director, Washington State Labor and Industries
Jan Simon, Past Executive Director, Washington State Chiropractic Association

Dietetics (including registered dietitian participants)

Adrienne Dorf, RD
Peggy Gerlock, RD, Washington State Dietetic Association
Mary Kopriva, RD
*Suzanne Myer, RD, Bastyr University
Debbie Nagy-Nero, RD, Washington State Dietetic Association
Kyle Unland, RD, Washington State Dietetic Association

Massage Therapy (including licensed massage therapist participants)

Lucy Baker, LMP, American Massage Therapy Association, Washington Chapter
Chris Casey, LMP, Ashmead College
Barbara Grigsby, LMP, American Massage Therapy Association, Washington Chapter
Ginger Lewis, LMP, Renton Technical College, Massage Program

Wendy Lippmann, LMP, American Massage Therapy Association, Washington Chapter
Beth Opplinger, LMP, Brian Utting School of Massage
*Susan Rosen, LMP, American Massage Therapy Association, Washington Chapter
*Dawn Schmidt, LMP, Brenneke School of Massage
Dee Spath, LMP, American Massage Therapy Association, National Standards of Care Special Committee
Diana Thompson, LMP, American Massage Therapy Association, National Standards Committee
Carl Wilson, LMP, American Massage Therapy Association, Washington Chapter

Conventional Medicine (including medical doctor participants)

Jim Bender, MD, Virginia Mason Medical Center
John Castiglia, MD, Premera Blue Cross (previously representing Regence BlueShield)
Rocky Frederickson, MD, Providence Health Plan
Hanns Haesslein, MD, Providence Seattle Medical Center
Elaine Jong, MD, Hall Health Primary Care Center, UWAMC
Gary Kaplan, MD, Virginia Mason Medical Center
Richard Layton, MD, Retired, Medalia Health Care
Rayburn Lewis, MD, Providence Seattle Medical Center
Jeff Livovich, MD, Aetna US HealthCare
Geoffrey MacPherson, MD, Pacificare of Washington
Laura Patton, MD, Group Health Cooperative of Puget Sound
Jeff Robertson, MD, Regence BlueShield
Ron Schneeweiss, MD, University Physicians
Mark Solleck, MD, Regence BlueShield
Art Spenkle, MD, Premera Blue Cross (Previously representing Qual Med Washington Health Plans)
Eugene Sun, MD, Pacificare of Washington
Allen Sussman, MD, Valley Medical Center
Pat Temple, MD, University of Washington Physicians
Peter West, MD, Premera Blue Cross
Mellicent Whinston, MD, Community Health Plan
Ze'ev Young, MD, UnitedHealthcare (Previously representing Regence BlueShield)

Midwifery (including licensed midwife participants)

*Heike Doyle, LM, Midwives Association of Washington
Sarah Huntington, LM, Midwives Association of Washington
*Jo Anne Myers-Ciecko, MPH, Executive Director, Seattle Midwifery School

Naturopathic Medicine (including naturopathic physician participants)

*Craig Baldwin, ND, Washington Association of Naturopathic Physicians
*Jennifer Booker, ND, American Complementary Care Network
*Robert Martinez, ND, DC, American Complementary Care Networks
*Robert May, ND, Alternare Health Services
*Bruce Milliman, ND, Washington Association of Naturopathic Physicians
*Pamela Snider, ND, Bastyr University
*Eileen Stretch, ND, American WholeHealth Network

Nurses (including nurse participants)

Marian Broida, RN, Regence BlueShield
Mary Dean, RN, Multicare
Margo Forstrom, RN, Multicare
Maureen Pence, RN, Community Health Plan
Debbie Smith-Fedon, RN, BSN, UnitedHealthcare

University of Washington Volunteer

Vizma Schulmeisters, MSW, Research support staff for CWIC

Facilitators

Lawrence Jacobson, Managed Healthcare Resources Northwest, LLC, 1997-1999
John Weeks, Publisher, Editor, *THE INTEGRATOR for the Business of Alternative Medicine*, 1997-1998

Workgroup Coordinator and Technical Support Staff

Lori L. Bielinski, LMP, Health Policy Analyst, Office of the Insurance Commissioner
Ann Eddy, Assistant to the Deputy Commissioner, additional support staff for committee

*Note: Presenters for the draft seed algorithm presentations in September and October of 1999 are indicated by an asterisk next to their name in the above list.

Additional Acknowledgements

Group Health Cooperative of Puget Sound and Regence BlueShield are acknowledged for their ongoing accommodations of meeting space.

EDITORS

Lori L. Bielinski, LMP, Health Policy Analyst
Robert D. Mootz, DC, Associate Medical Director, Department of Labor and Industries

Special committee on report writing

Lori Bielinski, Robert May, Bruce Milliman, Robert Mootz, Laura Patton, Barbara Stenson, Allen Sussman, Peter West, and Lawrence Jacobson

Special committee on editing

Lori Bielinski, Ann Eddy, Lawrence Jacobson, Bruce Milliman, Robert Mootz, Laura Patton, Barbara Stenson, Allen Sussman, and John Weeks

OUTSIDE PRESENTERS

Additional acknowledgements are made to those health care providers and organizations that presented to the Clinicians Workgroup in addition to the regular participants. Without the presentations of the following people the discussions of integration and the detail of running a truly integrated clinic may have been limited. For these presenters we extend our appreciation for their time to present and prepare to educate us about their experiences. Thank you very much

Clinician Workgroup on the Integration of CAM Outside Presenter's by Organization

Alternare of Washington (now Alternare Health Services)

Darrell Stewart, Former President

Center for Comprehensive Care

Pam Driscoll, BSN

Community Health Centers of King County/Kent Community Clinic

Thomas Trompeter, Executive Director

Group Health Center for Health Studies

Dan Cherkin, PhD, Affiliate Professor of Family Medicine and Health Services, University of Washington

Group Health Cooperative

Simeon Rubenstein, MD

Matt Handley, MD

Harborview Medical Center, Complementary Medicine Clinic

Dedra Buchwald, MD

Heidi Sitton, RN

Premiera Blue Cross

Richard Winner, Vice President

Pro-West

William McKee, MD

Puget Sound Birth Center

LeeAnne Shelley, LM

Puget Sound Physician's Association

David Burkebile, MD, Interim Medical Director

Quality Midwifery Associates

*Victoria Taylor, LM

Regence BlueShield

John Castiglia, MD

Seattle Cancer Treatment and Wellness Center

Patrick Donovan, ND

Kim Carlson, Administrator

Seattle Healing Arts

Zhi Ping Kouloch, LAc

Fernando Vega, MD, ND

Swedish Hospital, Dean Ornish Program

Suzanne Westcott, RN

Sarah Speck, MD, MPH

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Health Insurance Carriers

Aetna US Healthcare

Group Health Cooperative of Puget Sound

Pacificare of Washington

Premera Blue Cross

Qual Med Washington Health Plan

Regence BlueShield

UnitedHealthcare

Provider Professional Associations

Acupuncture Association of Washington

American Massage Therapy Association, Washington Chapter

Midwives Association of Washington State

Washington Association of Naturopathic Physicians

Washington State Chiropractic Association

Washington State Dietetic Association

Physician and Hospital Groups

Multicare Health System

Sisters of Providence Health System

Swedish Medical Center

University of Washington Medical Center

Valley Medical Center

Virginia Mason Medical Center

CAM Provider Networks

Alternare Health Services

American Complementary Care Network

American WholeHealth Network

CAM Educational Institutions

Ashmead College

Bastyr University

Brenneke School of Massage

Brian Utting School of Massage

Northwest Institute of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (NIAOM)

Seattle Midwifery School

Office of the Insurance Commissioner

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